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1993/08/02

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DOC\_NUMBER: 93BEIJIN27414



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O 021118Z AUG 93 FM AMEMBASSY BEIJING TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 6194 INFO AMCONSUL HONG KONG IMMEDIATE AMEMBASSY CANBERRA IMMEDIATE AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI IMMEDIATE AMEMBASSY JAKARTA IMMEDIATE AMCONSUL KARACHI "IMMEDIATE

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S E C R E T SECTION 01 OF 02 BEIJING 027414

ABU DHABI PASS DUBAI

E.O. 12356: DECL: OADR

TAGS: PARM, ETTC, CBW, CH, IR

SUBJECT: AMBASSADOR DELIVERS URGENT APPEAL TO CHINESE TO

STOP CHEMICAL PRECURSOR SHIPMENT

REF: A) STATE 233200, B) BEIJING 26297

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BEIJIN 27414 01 OF 02 021122Z PAGE 02 1. SECRET -- ENTIRE TEXT.

2. SUMMARY: AMBASSADOR DELIVERED REFTEL TALKING POINTS AUGUST 2 TO PRC MFA ASSISTANT FOREIGN MINISTER WANG CHANGYI. THE AMBASSADOR STRESSED THE IMPORTANCE OF MUTUAL COOPERATION IN ENFORCING LIMITATIONS ON TRAFFIC IN DANGEROUS ITEMS AND URGED THE CHINESE TO COOPERATE IN ENSURING THAT THE QUESTIONABLE SHIPMENT DID NOT REACH IRAN. THE AMBASSADOR SUGGESTED THAT CHINA MIGHT WELL ASK FOR ASSISTANCE FROM THE GOVERNMENT OF ABU DHABI IN INTERDICTING THE SHIPMENT WHILE AN INVESTIGATION WAS UNDERWAY. WANG THANKED THE AMBASSADOR FOR THE INFORMATION -- SOME OF WHICH HE TERMED NEW, SAID CHINA ATTACHED IMPORTANCE TO THE MATTER, STATED THAT HIS GOVERNMENT WAS CONDUCTING AN "URGENT" INVESTIGATION INTO THE INFORMATION WE HAD PROVIDED, AND PROMISED TO REPORT THE U.S. DEMARCHE

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TO HIS LEADERS. END SUMMARY.

- 3. THE AMBASSADOR MET AUGUST 2 WITH PRC ASSISTANT FOREIGN MINISTER WANG CHANGYI TO DELIVER REFTEL URGENT APPEAL TO THE PRC TO STOP THE SHIPMENT OF CHEMICAL PRECURSORS TO IRAN. WANG WAS ACCOMPANIED BY MFA DISARMAMENT DIVISION DEPUTY ZHANG WEIDONG AND AN MFA INTERPRETER. POLMILOFF AND EMBASSY INTERPRETER ACCOMPANIED AMBASSADOR.
- 4. THE AMBASSADOR READ THE TALKING POINTS TO ASSISTANT FOREIGN MINSTER WANG (SEE PARA 9 BELOW FOR TEXT OF TALKING POINTS AS DELIVERED) AND GAVE A COPY OF THE POINTS TO WANG AS A NON-PAPER. THE AMBASSADOR NOTED THAT U/S TARNOFF HAD DELIVERED THE SAME POINTS TO THE CHINESE EMBASSY MINISTER IN WASHINGTON ON JULY 31.

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- 5. THE AMBASSADOR TOLD WANG THAT CONTROLLING EXPORTS OF DANGEROUS ITEMS WAS AN IMPORTANT ISSUE, WHICH HAD ATTRACTED THE ATTENTION OF MANY NATIONS. HE NOTED THAT THE U.S. HAD PASSED LAWS TO STRENGTHEN ITS REGULATION OF SUCH ITEMS. THE AMBASSADOR STRESSED TO WANG THAT THE U.S. WANTED TO WORK WITH CHINA TO STOP THESE KINDS OF SHIPMENTS. THIS TYPE OF COOPERATION WAS IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE GOALS OF THE CHEMICAL WEAPONS CONVENTION.
- 6. THE ASSISTANT FOREIGN MINISTER NOTED HE WAS AWARE OF THE MEETING IN WASHINGTON BETWEEN U/S TARNOFF AND THE CHINESE MINISTER AND AWARE THAT THE U.S. EMBASSY HAD EARLIER PASSED INFORMATION ON THIS MATTER TO OFFICIALS IN THE MFA. WANG SAID SOME OF THE INFORMATION THE AMBASSADOR HAD JUST TOLD HIM WAS NEW INFORMATION. WANG TOLD THE AMBASSADOR THAT CHINA HAD MADE ACTIVE EFFORTS TOWARDS ACHIEVING THE CHEMICAL WEAPONS CONVENTION AND HAD BEEN ONE OF THE FIRST NATIONS TO SIGN IT. HE ASSERTED THAT CHINA HAD STRICT REGULATIONS AND PROHIBITIONS ON THE EXPORT OF SUCH CHEMICALS. THE U.S. SHOULD BE CLEAR ABOUT THAT.
- 7. WANG STATED CHINA ATTACHED IMPORTANCE TO THIS ISSUE AND WAS CARRYING OUT AN "URGENT" INVESTIGATION. WANG PROMISED TO REPORT THE U.S. DEMARCHE TO HIS LEADERS.



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THE AMBASSADOR CLOSED BY TELLING WANG THAT THE U.S. LOOKED FORWARD TO WORKING WITH CHINA IN RESOLVING A PROBLEM THAT MANY COUNTRIES SHARED --HOW TO CONTROL THE SHIPMENT OF DANGEROUS CHEMICALS.

- 9. TEXT OF CORRECTED TALKING POINTS. BELOW IS THE TEXT OF REFTEL TALKING POINTS TICKS NINE AND TEN AS DELIVERED. THE CHANGES WERE MADE IN ORDER TO CONFORM EXACTLY WITH WHAT THE FOREIGN MINISTRY HAS TOLD US -- SEE REF B, PARA 5 -- AND TO CONFORM WITH OUR STANDARD PRACTICES ON ATTRIBUTION.
- -- (TICK NINE AS DELIVERED) AN MFA OFFICIAL TOLD US THAT IF THE SHIPMENT OF THIODIGLYCOL HAD IN FACT OCCURRED, THIS WOULD BE A VIOLATION OF CHINESE LAW, AND THAT IF A SHIPMENT OF THIONYL CHLORIDE, WITHOUT THE PROPER LICENSE AND END USER ASSURANCES, HAD OCCURRED, CHINESE LAW WOULD HAVE BEEN VIOLATED. WE WERE TOLD THAT CHINA WOULD BE READY TO COOPERATE TO ENSURE THAT SUCH EXPORTS DID NOT OCCUR.
- -- (TICK TEN AS DELIVERED) ON JULY 30, WE WERE INFORMED

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O 021118Z AUG 93 FM AMEMBASSY BEIJING TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 6195

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INFO AMCONSUL HONG KONG IMMFDIATE AMEMBASSY CANBERRA I MIEDIATE AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI IMMEDIATE AMEMBASSY JAKARTA IMMEDIATE AMCONSUL KARACHI IMMEDIATE

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STOP CHEMICAL PRECURSOR SHIPMENT

THAT CHINA WAS CONTINUING TO INVESTIGATE THE SHIPMENT, BUT THAT AUTHORITIES HAD SO FAR BEEN UNABLE TO FIND EVIDENCE SECRET

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BEIJIN 27414 02 OF 02 021122Z PAGE 02 THAT THE "YIN HE" HAD DEPARTED DALIAN ON JULY 15. ROY

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\*\*\* Current Handling Restrictions \*\*\* n/a \*\*\* Current Classification \*\*\* SECRET